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FOR DEARLY HIGHLY
OF DEVELOPMENT IN HUMAN RIGHTS

No. 34, July 12, 1978

✓ J. Schneider SPUR
LWR F.C. REPORTS

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ARGENTINA PROJECT (S200000044)

U.S. DEPT. OF STATE, A/RPS/IPS

Margaret P. Grafeld, Director

☒ Release ☒ Excise ☐ Deny

Exemption(s): NR

Declassify: ☐ In Part ☒ In Full

☐ Classify as ☐ Extend as ☐ Downgrade to

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LATIN AMERICA

Argentina

Possible New Rights Initiatives. Embassy Buenos Aires sources and the Argentine press have reported an effort by

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Navy Commander Massera to have the outgoing military junta:

- publish the names of all those known to have died in armed confrontations with security personnel; and
- clarify the status of detained former political and labor leaders who are charged under the 1976 Act of Institutional Responsibility with having failed to carry out the responsibilities of their offices.

Massera's apparent intention is to resolve these problems in order to simplify the task of the new governing team. After August 1, Videla will retire as army commander but remain President, with a junta of new service commanders to be chosen before the fall.

There is considerable army resistance to the "list of the dead" proposal, according to the Embassy. Navy spokesmen claim that the junta has not yet reached a decision and speak optimistically. The Embassy is not sanguine.

The Embassy comments that sorting out the cases of persons subject to the Act of Institutional Responsibility is a far less sensitive issue. It considers that some near-term movement is entirely possible. According to navy sources, some of the accused would be given prison terms in accordance with the measure's provisions, some would be remanded to the criminal court system, and others would be freed.

[REDACTED] Buenos Aires 5237, July 7)

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